

*Stated Meeting, January 15.*

Present, twenty-four members.

Judge KANE, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From the Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, dated London, Nov. 19, 1857, and from the Royal Asiatic Society, dated London, Dec. 5, 1857, both returning acknowledgments for Vol. XI. Part 1, of the Transactions, and for No. 56 of the Proceedings of this Society:—

From the Boston Society of Natural History, dated Boston, Jan. 7, 1858, acknowledging the receipt of Vol. XI. Part 1, of the Transactions, and No. 57 of the Proceedings: and—

From the Society of Arts and Sciences of Batavia, dated Oct. 20, 1857, in relation to transmitting the publications of this Society.

The following donation was received:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Quarterly Journal of the Chemical Society. No. XXXIX. (Vol. X. 3.) October 1857. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Dr. Emerson made a communication on the subject of the Chinese Sugar Cane, as grown in this country. He referred to the difficulty at first experienced in granulating the sugar produced from it; but stated that by recent experiments, as made and described by Mr. Lovering, that difficulty has been obviated and the process rendered so simple as to be easily practised by an intelligent rural producer.

Dr. E. referred to the product of this cane, as stated by Mr. Lovering, and expressed the opinion that its cultivation will be found adapted to a variety of soils, and will ultimately prove to be important and profitable to those who engage in it.

Specimens of sugar produced from this cane were exhibited by Dr. Emerson.

Prof. Cresson remarked that the fibrous substance of the Sorghum is well adapted to the manufacture of paper, and may hereafter be of importance for that purpose.

In addition, Dr. Emerson observed that the scum which rises from the juice of this cane, as well as the leaves from the stalks, afford a grateful and nourishing food for many animals.

Dr. R. E. Rogers expressed the opinion that many of the failures in making sugar from the Chinese Cane, have been owing to the canes not having been cut and pressed at the proper stage of development of the saccharine matter, and to a want of skill in the process of evaporation.

The Society then proceeded to ballot for a librarian for the ensuing year, and Mr. J. P. Lesley was elected.

The Standing Committees of the Society for the year 1858, were then appointed as follows:—

*Finance*; Mr. Fraley, Mr. Justice, Mr. J. F. James.

*Publication*; Prof. Trego, Dr. Elwyn, Prof. F. Rogers.

*Hall*; Mr. F. Peale, Prof. Trego, Prof. Coppée.

*Library*; Rev. Dr. Stevens, Dr. Hays, Mr. Ord.

The list of surviving members of the Society was read. The number on the list, January 1, 1858, was 390, of whom are resident in the United States 286, and in foreign countries 104.

The Society then proceeded to the next stated business of the meeting, the balloting for candidates for membership.

All other business having been concluded, the ballot-box was opened by the presiding officer, and the following named gentlemen were declared to be duly elected members of the Society.

ELIA LOMBARDINI, Civil Engineer, of Milan.

MAJOR HENRY C. WAYNE, of the U. S. Army.

### *Stated Meeting, February 5.*

Present, forty-seven members.

Judge KANE, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Major Henry C. Wayne, dated Philadelphia, Jan. 25, 1858, acknowledging the receipt of notice of his election as a member of the Society:—